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## Comparison of Egg Production in Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States

Annual chick placements have been declining in Germany, from 46.1 million in 1996 to 45.7 million in 2000 and 44.0 million in 2004. Egg production totaled 38.7 million cases (30 dozen cases) in 1996, dropping to 38.5 in 2000 and 34.4 in 2004.

In the Netherlands, placements totaled 28.8 million chicks in 1996, 32.7 million chicks in 2000, 26.3 million chicks in 2004. Egg production was 25.1 million cases in 1996, 27.8 million cases in 2004 and 25.6 million in 2004. An outbreak on highly pathogenic avian influenza (H7N7) in 2003 led to the loss of 55 percent of the table egg production in the Netherlands. Germany and Belgium had limited loss to the avian influenza outbreak.

The UK's chick placements were 33.4 million in 1996, 32.5 million in 2000 and 32.7 million in 2004. Egg production totaled 24.6 million cases in 1996, 23.9 million in 2000 and 26.4 million in 2004.

Chick placements in the U.S. grew steadily from 203.6 million chicks in 1996 to 214.7 million in 2000 and 218.7 million in 2004. Egg production totaled 212.0 million cases in 1996 but dropped to 198.3 in 2000 before rebounding to 211.8 in 2004.

<u>Cost of Production of Shell Eggs in Cages</u>					
	1996	Jan-Jun	Jul-Dec	2000 Jan-Jun	Jul-Dec
Germany	DM/100 eggs	9.25	9.30	8.65	8.65
*NL	Dfl/kg	1.84	1.86	1.73	1.76
UK	pence/dz	51.3	50.7	44.3	44.1
US	cent/dz	58.2	57.4	43.7	41.8
	2004	Jan-Jun	Jul-Dec		
Germany	EU/100 eggs	4.85	4.50		
*NL	EU/kg	.78 (for 2003)			
UK	pence/dz	na	na		
US	cents/dz	50.2	50.2		

\*the Netherlands - costs include labor

Currency exchange rates, monthly average for

1996: US\$1 = 1.50 DM, 1.69 Dfl, 0.64 British Pounds

2000: US\$1 = 2.2099 DM, 2.49 Dfl, 0.68815 British Pounds

2004: US\$1 = Euro 1.90165

Up until 2003, EU Law required a minimum space requirement of 450 square cm/bird. From 2003 to 2012 the space requirement for conventional (not enriched) cages was increased to 550 sq cm/bird. Effective January 1, 2002, enriched cages, which, require perches, nest boxes and litter, were required to have at least 750 sq cm of cage space per hen. Rearing layers in conventional cages will be prohibited effective January 1, 2012. New conventional cages have not been allowed to be built, or brought into service for the first time, since January 1, 2003.

Germany has prohibited housing hens in conventional cages as from December 2006 and enriched cages will not be allowed after December 31, 2011. Between 1995 and 2004, egg production shifted from 93.7% in cages to 77.5% in cages. The balance of birds were raised in deep litter or free range.

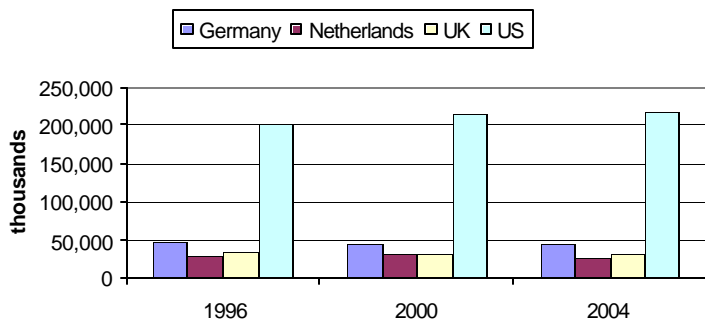
In 2005, of the 30 million laying hens housed in the Netherlands, about 50 % are kept in conventional cage systems while the other half are kept in aviaries/barns, on free range, or as organic.

The UK has a code of recommendations for laying hens. Statutory Instrument 2000 No. 1870 set minimum cage areas at 450 sq cm where four or more hens are kept in the cage. Statutory Instrument 2002 No. 1646 set requirements of at least 550 sq cm per hen of cage area for all conventional cage systems. In 2004, 66% of production was in cages, 24% free range, 7 % barn and 3% organic.

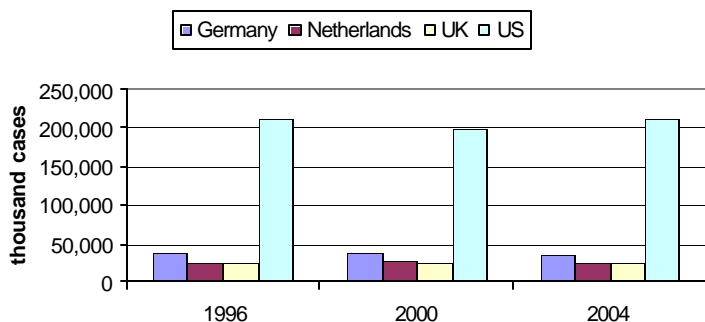
In the International Egg Commission's Recommended Standards for the Welfare of Laying Hens, usable space per hen in a minimum of 432 sq cm (67 sq in) for small framed birds (such as white leghorns) and 490 sq cm (76 sq in) for large framed birds (modern brown hybrids). In the United States, United Egg Producer Guidelines recommend 67 sq in (432 sq cm) per white egg leghorn hen and between 67 and 86 sq in (432 - 555 sq cm) per brown egg layer hen.

Source: International Egg Commission, British Egg Industry Council, UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, European Commission, new wires

**Annual Chick Placements**



**Annual Egg Production**



**Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade****U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

Week Ending October 22, 2005		Year-To-Date		
TYPE	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/	2004
Liquid	363	714	14,239	15,095
Frozen	0	0	130	11
Dried	40	10	688	599
Total	403	724	15,057	15,705

**U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

Week Ending October 22, 2005		Year-To-Date		
TYPE	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/	2004
Liquid	173	41	5,864	7,042
Frozen	0	48	708	1,495
Dried	0	0	371	1,853
Total	173	89	6,943	10,390

**Inspected Shell Eggs****U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

Week Ending October 22, 2005		Year-To-Date		
TYPE	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/	2004
Jumbo	0	14	179	392
Extra Large	2,006	5,730	173,331	166,734
Large	4,304	13,313	273,871	362,094
Medium	870	4,260	89,839	111,295
Ungraded	7,380	15,426	162,514	277,254
Misc	0	0	8,053	16,790
Total	14,560	38,743	707,787	934,559

1/ Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

2/ Includes revisions to previous week(s).

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section  
Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch.**U.S./Canadian Live Poultry Slaughtered Under Inspection**

W/E 22-Oct-05 (PRELIMINARY)

**U.S. Fowl Slaughtered Domestically**

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
-----Thousands-----			
Head	1,060	1,515	2,575
Last Week	1,322	1,501	2,823
Same week yr ago	1,462	1,501	2,963
To-date/2005	60,904	59,610	120,514
To-date/2004	57,341	57,025	114,366

**U.S. Fowl Slaughtered in Canada**

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
-----Thousands-----			
Head	229	0	229
Last Week	197	2	199
Same week yr ago	379	20	399
To-date/2005	10,902	60	10,962
To-date/2004	10,250	118	10,368

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section

**Total U.S. Fowl slaughtered in the U.S. and Canada**

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
-----Thousands-----			
Head	1,289	1,515	2,804
Last Week	1,519	1,503	3,022
Same week yr ago	1,841	1,521	3,362
To-date/2005	71,806	59,670	131,476
To-date/2004	67,591	57,143	124,734

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch

**CENTRAL REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN**

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE CENTRAL REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

Oct 28, 2005

**CHICKEN WITH SKIN ADDED**

		--- PRICES ---		---- VOLUME ----	
FAT	CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS					
RANGE		-	21.00	61,200	-
WTD AVERAGE			21.00		
15-20%					
RANGE	14.00-23.00	10.00-21.00		2,123,600	803,200
WTD AVERAGE	18.20	15.05			
20% OR MORE					
RANGE		-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE					

\* INCLUDES THE STATES of AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

**EASTERN REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN**

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE EASTERN REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

Oct 28, 2005

**CHICKEN WITH SKIN ADDED**

		--- PRICES ---		---- VOLUME ----	
FAT	CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS					
RANGE		18.00	14.00-19.00	1,688,000	208,000
WTD AVERAGE		18.00	16.59		
15-20%					
RANGE	14.00-21.00		17.00	2,208,000	1,768,000
WTD AVERAGE	16.97		17.00		
20% OR MORE					
RANGE		-	14.00	40,000	-
WTD AVERAGE			14.00		

\* INCLUDES THE STATES of CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

**NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 28 OCTOBER 2005.**

The market tone on fresh tom breast meat was steady to barely steady, balance of white meat steady to fully steady. Demand on fresh tom breast meat light to moderate, balance moderate to instances good. Offerings of fresh tom breast meat adequate to fully adequate, balance short to instances adequate. Trading active on fresh 4-8 lb. breasts for the holidays and on white meat, balance slow. For domestic: tails 33, frozen Grade a 12-14 lb. WOGs 89, fresh wing meat 90, fresh scapula 126 cents delivered. For export: fresh thigh meat 96 cents delivered.

<b>EXPORT TRADING</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>L.S.T.</b>	<b>WTD AVG</b>	<b>VOLUME</b>	<b>WEEKLY</b>	<b>WEEKLY</b>
<b>FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2005</b>	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>CODE 1/</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>(000)</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>(000)</b>
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	44.00		44.00	208	44.06	648
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS						
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	37.00		37.00	52	37.00	364
TAILS		T	34.25	40	34.25	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/		R	23.67	120	23.16	328
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	96.00-99.00		97.50	80	96.28	384

<b>EXPORT TRADING</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>L.S.T.</b>	<b>WTD AVG</b>	<b>VOLUME</b>
<b>THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2005</b>	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>CODE 1/</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>(000)</b>
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	43.00-45.00		44.13	320
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		R	46.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		T	37.00	312
TAILS		T	34.25	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/	23.00-24.00		23.67	120
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	97.00		97.00	40

<b>EXPORT TRADING</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>L.S.T.</b>	<b>WTD AVG</b>	<b>VOLUME</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2005</b>	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>CODE 1/</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>(000)</b>
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		T	44.00	120
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		R	46.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		T	37.00	312
TAILS		T	34.25	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/	21.75-24.00		22.88	208
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	95.00-96.00		95.50	184

<b>EXPORT TRADING</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>L.S.T.</b>	<b>WTD AVG</b>	<b>VOLUME</b>
<b>TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2005</b>	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>CODE 1/</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>(000)</b>
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	44.00		44.00	120
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		R	46.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	37.00		37.00	312
TAILS	34.25		34.25	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/		F	24.00	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	97.00		97.00	40

<b>EXPORT TRADING</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>L.S.T.</b>	<b>WTD AVG</b>	<b>VOLUME</b>
<b>MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2005</b>	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>CODE 1/</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>(000)</b>
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		F	43.36	652
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		R	46.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS				
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/		F	24.00	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	96.00		96.00	40

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Product contains 15-20% fat with skin added.